



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

February 24, 2000

Mick Blackistone, Treasurer  
National Marine Manufacturers Association  
Political Action Committee  
1819 L Street, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036

RE: MUR 4959  
National Marine Manufacturers  
Association Political Action  
Committee and Mick Blackistone,  
as Treasurer

Dear Mr. Blackistone:

On February 17, 2000, the Federal Election Commission accepted the signed conciliation agreement and civil penalty submitted on your behalf in settlement of a violation of 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(a)(4)(A)(i), (ii) and (iv), provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended. Accordingly, the file has been closed in this matter.

The confidentiality provisions at 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. In addition, although the complete file must be placed on the public record within 30 days, this could occur at any time following certification of the Commission's vote. If you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so as soon as possible. While the file may be placed on the public record before receiving your additional materials, any permissible submissions will be added to the public record upon receipt.

Information derived in connection with any conciliation attempt will not become public without the written consent of the respondent and the Commission. See 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(B). The enclosed conciliation agreement, however, will become a part of the public record.

Mick Blackistone, Treasurer  
MUR 4959  
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Enclosed you will find a copy of the fully executed conciliation agreement for your files.  
If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy Q. Lockett", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roy Q. Lockett  
Attorney

Enclosure  
Conciliation Agreement

**BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of )  
 ) MUR: 4959  
National Marine Manufacturers )  
Association Political Action Committee )  
and Mick Blackistone, as Treasurer )

**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

This matter was initiated by the Federal Election Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to information ascertained in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. The Commission found reason to believe that the National Marine Manufacturers Association Political Action Committee and Mick Blackistone, as treasurer ("Respondents") violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(a)(4)(A)(i), (ii) and (iv).

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission and the Respondents, having participated in informal methods of conciliation, prior to a finding of probable cause to believe, do hereby agree as follows:

I. The Commission has jurisdiction over the Respondents and the subject matter of this proceeding, and this agreement has the effect of an agreement entered pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(A)(i).

II. Respondents have had a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate that no action should be taken in this matter.

III. Respondents enter voluntarily into this agreement with the Commission.

IV. The pertinent facts in this matter are as follows:

1. The National Marine Manufacturers Association Political Action Committee is a political committee within the meaning of 2 U.S.C. § 431(4) and is not an authorized committee of any candidate.

2. Mick Blackistone is the treasurer of the National Marine Manufacturers Association Political Action Committee.

3. a. The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, ("the Act") requires treasurers of political committees other than authorized committees of a candidate to file periodic reports of receipts and disbursements. In a non-election year, political committees must file a report covering the period beginning January 1, and ending June 30, which shall be filed no later than July 31, and a report covering the period beginning July 1, and ending December 31, which shall be filed no later than January 31 of the following calendar year. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(iv).

b. The Act also requires all political committees other than authorized committees of a candidate to file quarterly reports in a calendar year in which a regularly scheduled general election is held, which shall be filed no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the last day of each calendar quarter except that the report of the quarter ending on December 31 of such calendar year shall be filed no later than January 31 of the following year. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(i).

c. Additionally, the Act requires political committees to file a pre-election report no later than the 12<sup>th</sup> day before any general election if a contribution to or an expenditure on behalf of a candidate for federal office is made by a political committee twenty days or more prior to a general election. 2 U.S.C. § 434 (a)(4)(A)(ii).

4. Respondents failed to file timely the 1997 Year End Report. Respondents were required to file the Year End Report no later than January 31, 1998. The 1997 Year End Report, which disclosed \$38,758 in receipts and \$4,000 in disbursements, was not filed until March 23, 1998, 51 days late.

5. Respondents failed to file timely the 1998 April Quarterly Report. Respondents were required to file the Quarterly Report no later than April 15, 1998. The April 1998 Report, which disclosed \$0 in receipts and \$1,000 in disbursements, was not filed until June 2, 1998, 48 days late.

6. Respondents failed to file timely the 1998 12 Day Pre-General Report. Respondents were required to file the 12 Day Pre-General Report no later than October 22, 1998. The 1998 12 Day Pre-General Report, which disclosed \$0 in receipts and \$1,000 in disbursements, was not filed until December 1, 1998, 40 days late.

V. Respondents failed to file timely their 1997 Year End, 1998 April Quarterly and 1998 12 Day Pre-General Reports in violation of 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(a)(4)(A)(i), (ii) and (iv).

VI. Respondents will pay a civil penalty to the Federal Election Commission in the amount of One Thousand, Three Hundred dollars (\$1,300), pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(5)(A).

VII. The Commission, on request of anyone filing a complaint under 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(1) concerning the matters at issue herein or on its own motion, may review compliance with this agreement. If the Commission believes that this agreement or any requirement thereof has been violated, it may institute a civil action for relief in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

VIII. This agreement shall become effective as of the date that all parties hereto have executed same and the Commission has approved the entire agreement.


IX. Respondents shall have no more than 30 days from the date this agreement becomes effective to comply with and implement the requirement contained in this agreement and to so notify the Commission.

X. This Conciliation Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on the matters raised herein, and no other statement, promise, or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party or by agents of either party, that is not contained in this written agreement shall be enforceable.

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Lawrence M. Noble  
General Counsel

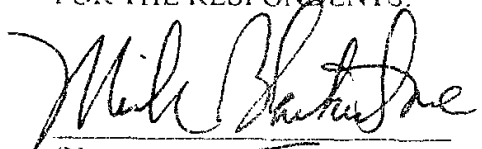
BY:

  
Lois G. Lerner  
Associate General Counsel

Date

2/22/00

FOR THE RESPONDENTS:

  
(Name)  
(Position) Treasurer

Date

2/9/2000

